AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of processing an image of a face, the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

receiving a two dimensional facial image, the facial image having been captured from a viewpoint;

combining the two dimensional facial image and a standard three dimensional facial image to create a modified three dimensional facial image;

adjusting an orientation of the modified three dimensional facial image with respect to ~~the~~ said viewpoint; and

with respect to said viewpoint, rendering a two dimensional image from the adjusted three-dimensional facial image.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the standard three dimensional facial image is generated by receiving a plurality of three dimensional facial images and combining the plurality of three dimensional facial images to generate the standard three dimensional facial image.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ combining ~~step~~ includes ~~the steps of~~:

performing a sequence of steps involving:

combining the two dimensional facial image and standard three dimensional facial image to create a first intermediate three dimensional facial image;

rendering a first intermediate two dimensional facial image based upon the first intermediate three dimensional facial image; and

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comparing the first intermediate two dimensional facial image to the two dimensional facial image; and

after performing the sequence; modifying the first intermediate three dimensional facial image based upon results from performing the sequence of steps of the comparison step.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein ~~the~~ combining ~~step of claim 1~~ the two dimensional facial image and the standard three dimensional facial image to create a modified three dimensional facial image further includes performing the sequence of steps ~~the step of repeating the rendering, comparing and modifying steps~~ a plurality of times.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4, further comprising ~~the step of~~:
rendering a final two dimensional image from the three dimensional facial image according to a selected lighting.

8. (Currently Amended) A facial identification method comprising ~~the steps of~~:
receiving a two dimensional facial image, the facial image having been captured from a viewpoint;
creating a three dimensional facial image from the two dimensional facial image;
adjusting an orientation of the three dimensional facial image with respect to ~~the~~ said viewpoint;
with respect to said viewpoint, rendering an adjusted two dimensional facial image from the adjusted three dimensional facial image; and
comparing the rendered adjusted two dimensional facial image to at least one stored two dimensional facial image to determine a match.

9. (Currently Amended) The facial identification method of claim 8, wherein ~~the~~ comparing ~~step~~ includes:
comparing the rendered two dimensional image to a plurality of stored two dimensional facial images to determine a closest match.

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10. (Currently Amended) The facial identification method of claim 8, wherein ~~the step of~~ creating a three dimensional facial image includes ~~the step of~~ combining the two dimensional facial image and a standard three dimensional facial image to create a modified three dimensional facial image.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The facial identification method of claim 10, further comprising generating the standard three dimensional facial image by receiving a plurality of three dimensional facial images and combining the plurality of three dimensional facial images to generate the standard three dimensional facial image.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for identifying an individual, said system comprising:

a camera for acquiring a two dimensional facial image of a person's head from a viewpoint relative to the person's head;

means for creating a three dimensional facial image from the two dimensional facial image;

means for adjusting an orientation of the three dimensional facial image with respect to [[a]] said viewpoint ~~of the camera~~;

means for rendering with respect to said viewpoint a final two dimensional image from the adjusted three dimensional image; and

means for comparing the final two dimensional image to at least one stored two dimensional image to determine a match.

14. (Original) The system for identifying an individual according to claim 13, further comprising:

a database of stored two dimensional images; and

wherein the means for comparing includes means for comparing the final two dimensional image to at least one stored two dimensional image in the database of stored two dimensional images.

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15. (Original) The system for identifying an individual according to claim 14, wherein the means for comparing includes means for comparing the final two dimensional image to a plurality of stored two dimensional images in the database to determine a closest match.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Original) The system for identifying an individual according to claim 13, wherein the means for rendering includes means for rendering the final two dimensional facial image based upon a selected lighting.

18. (Original) The system for identifying an individual according to claim 13, wherein the means for creating a three dimensional facial image includes:

means for combining the two dimensional facial image with a standard three dimensional facial image to create an intermediate three dimensional facial image; and

means for rendering an intermediate two dimensional facial image from the intermediate three dimensional facial image;

means for comparing the intermediate two dimensional facial image to the two dimensional facial image; and

means for adjusting the intermediate three dimensional facial image based upon results of the comparison of the intermediate two dimensional facial image to the two dimensional facial image.

Claims 19-20 (Canceled).